

Remarks:

This reply is responsive to the *Ex Parte Quayle* Action dated October 9, 2007. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during the telephonic interview on December 6, 2007. As discussed during the interview and as will be explained in more detail below, Applicants submit that no changes to the claims or the drawings are necessary in response to the *Ex Parte Quayle* Action. In light of these remarks, Applicants request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course.

Claim Objections

The Action objects to Claims 1, 46, 53, 89, and 92 by asserting that the recitation “the antenna structure” lacks antecedent basis. As discussed during the interview, Applicants disagree with this assertion. In each of Claims 1, 46, 53, 89, and 92, the recitation “the antenna structure” refers to the preceding recitation “an antenna structure.”

Drawings

Additionally, the Action objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), which requires, in part, that the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Action asserts that the recitation “the RFID tag module is ... in a non-contacting coupled arrangement with ... the antenna structure of the RFID tag or label” is not shown in the drawings. Applicants disagree with this assertion and submit that this claim recitation is shown in at least two of the drawings. For example, Figs. 8 and 9 show an RFID module **300** that is in non-contacting coupled arrangement with antenna **310, 318**.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the objections to the claims and the objections to the drawings have been traversed.

Application No.: 10/527,736
Amendment Dated: December 10, 2007
Reply to Office Action of October 9, 2007

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants request that a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims be issued in due course. Examiner Ho is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

/R. Flynt Strean/

R. Flynt Strean
Registration No. 56,450

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON DECEMBER 10, 2007.